A REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Saturday, May 1. 1708.

I Cannot but obſerve, that there have been not long ſince two large Contributions made in the World, that have occaſion'd ſome Diſcourſe, and a great many ill-natur'd People are apt to ſuggeſt, they are for the ſame Purpoſes, I am very well ſatisfy'd ſome of it is for the ſame People.

Firſt, The Pope's large Contribution of a Million of Crowns towards the *French* Expedition for *Scotland*.

Secondly, The Charity-Contribution rais'd in *England* for Relief of the perſecuted Clergy in *Scotland*.

I will not ſay, that the Propoſal of ſuch a Collection was with a Deſign to raiſe a Fund for the late famous Expedition, far leſs will I ſuggeſt, that the well-meaning People, who have ſo generouſly contributed to the Caſe, under the Appearance of Charity to diſtreſs'd Families, have had the leaſt evil Intent— But this I muſt ſay, they have had the ill Luck to have that Affair be very unhappily tim'd, and the very Juncture in which it happen'd, if there were really no other Circumſtance, yet gives Ground, and that indeed too much

much, for the Reflections that are every Day rais'd upon that Buſineſs.

And that I may ſo far juſtifie the Suſpicions, as to make them rational in the Perſons who raiſe them, I ſhall only tell you the Reaſons they give for them, which are ſuch as theſe;

1. The Perſons, who this Money was pretended to be rais'd for, are generally ſpeaking profeſs'd and declar'd Enemies to the Government, avow'd *Jacobites*, and ſuffer purely for not taking the Oaths.
2. The Perſons principally promoting this Collection, and who were moſt zealous in carrying it on, were thoſe we call *High-Flyers*, the ſame thing in Eſſence with a *Jacobite*, only much worſe, as they are hypocritically mask'd under the Diſguiſe of Oaths, which they vilely make a Covering to their Principles, while they diſcover them again in their Actions—— *For by their Works you ſhall know them.*
3. The Juncture of Time, when this Collection was begun, was juſt then, when the very Perſons, who where pretended to be reliev'd by this Charity, were inviting over and ſolliciting a *French* and *Popiſh* Invader to depoſe our QUEEN, overturn our Liberties, ſuppreſs the Proteſtant Religion, diſſolve the Union, and invert the Succeſſion.

Now, if this be not ſufficient Ground for us to ſuſpect the true Diſpoſition of theſe Collections, let them tell us, wherein our Breach of Charity conſiſts; for upon my Word I cannot diſcern it; and I cannot think it is unſeaſonable Advice to theſe Gentlemen, whether they pleaſe to take it or no, That they would clear up the Reputation of this Collection from ſome of its doubtful Circumſtances; this they may eaſily do —if they would vouchſafe for their own Sakes, but to acquaint the World in ſome publick Manner with ſome Particulars like theſe.

1. From whoſe Sollicitation this Charity firſt began.
2. How much Money they have collected.
3. What Sort of People have had the Diſpoſing of it.
4. How it has been diſpoſed.

In doing this, they would clear up Abundance of Doubts and Scruples, which a great many honeſt People have entertain'd about this Charity; as particularly, they would in the firſt Head ſatisfie them, that it had not its Riſe on the ſame Baſis with the *Dunkirk* Expedition, and did not begin hand in hand with the Pope; that while *France* engaged the Pontiff, and the Head of Popery was ſollicited to relieve them, the Party by this Trick might engage the Proteſtants of the Church of *England* to be ignorantly contributing to their own Deſtruction.

At

At leaſt if it began among thoſe *Scots Iſraelites*, who were preparing to go out of the Houſe of Bondage, it might ſeem ſomething a Kin to the *Iſraelites* Women borrowing the Jewels of the *Ægyptian* Ladies, that they might ſpoil them at parting.

In anſwering the ſecond Head, they might remove the Jealouſies, that proceed from the flying Reports rais'd, I know not how, of the Largeneſs of the Sum collected, of which ſome talk very high, as that they have collected above a Hundred Thouſand Pounds *Sterling*——— And as that is a Sum which makes a formidable Sound, and looks too big for a Deſign of a meer Charity; *if it be not true*, it behoves them to remove the Suſpicion by declaring the Sum; which if it appears to be ſmall and inconſiderable, the Suggeſtion will vaniſh of Courſe; whereas the Magnitude of the Sum gives really ſome Room for People to juſtifie their Cenſures, knowing there are not Objects of Charity enough pretended to, to make ſuch a Sum reaſonable.

In explaining the third Head, they will ſatisfie a great many doubting, unbelieving Chriſtians, as to the Deſign of this Charity; for if it has been committed to the Diſpoſal of honeſt Men, Men in the Intereſt of the Government, and of known Principles, as to Pretenders, Invaders, the QUEEN, the Succeſſion, *&c.* many People, I believe, might wave their Diſſatisfactions, and come to Temper about it; but if it be in the Diſpoſal of *Jacobites*, *High-Flyers*, and profeſs'd Enemies of our Conſtitution; if it be in the Diſpoſal of ſuch as ſmil'd and look'd chearful at the News of an Invaſion, and are chagrin, melancholly and hypochondriack at the Diſappointment; if it ſhould unluckily be made out, that thoſe are the Truſtees of the Money, that have already betray'd the Truſt of their own Nation, and endeavour'd to ſell the Liberties of their Country; upon my Word, Gentlemen, it will go a great Way to juſtifie the worſt Suggeſtions that can have been formed on this Account, and make us believe, That either the Collection was at firſt ill-deſign'd, or has been ſince ill apply'd, or both.

For who can believe, but they who have ſo plainly diſcover'd their Zeal for our Enemies, their Deſire for the Overthrowing our Liberties, Dethroning our Soveraign, and deſtroying all that is dear to us, either as *Engliſh* Men, or as Chriſtians, would make themſelves glad with an Opportunity to do it ſo much at our own Charge, as this would be.

The fourth Head rightly explain'd would alſo clear up Abundance of Difficulties of the ſame Sort——— For I muſt own this, however all the reſt of the Charity be to be defended, That if this Money be given to relieve the Neceſſities of a People, who are declared Favourers of the Pretender and his Principles, and by Conſequence Enemies to the preſent Government and future Succeſſion— Tho' the Diſtreſſes of the Miſerable ought always to be conſider'd by us, and reliev'd, yet it falls

falls out at a very unhappy Juncture for them, as to Reputation; and the Circumſtances fully juſtifie the Suſpicion.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

Lately Publiſh'd,

A New Deſcription of the World, delineating *Europe*, *Aſia*, *Africa*, and *America*; with a Map and Tables of the Empires, Kingdoms, Provinces, and Cities therein, together with a Chronological and Hiſtorical Account of the Emperors, Kings, Princes, Governments, Religion, Languages, Cuſtoms, Commodities, Revolutions, and Rareties thereof. By *H. Curſon*, Gent. Sold by *John Morphew*, near *Stationers-Hall*.

AN Excellent Secret to take away Warts; Being a noble Mineral Tincture, which ſafely and without Trouble takes away the largeſt and moſt ugly Warts from the Hands, or other Parts of the Body, ſo as never to return again, rendring the Places on which they grew as ſmooth and fair, as if no ſuch Excreſcence had ever been. It's a ſtupendious Medicine, and takes away Warts very ſoon and with the greateſt Safety, Certainty and Eaſe imaginable. Is Sold only at Mr. *Allcraft's*, a Toy-Shop, at the *Blue-Coat-Boy*, againſt the *Royal-Exchange* in *Cornhill*, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle, containing enough to take away fifty Warts, with Directions.

PEPTICON, an unparallel'd Medicine, to help a weak Digeſtion, and procure an Appetite, abſolutely cures Hecticks, Conſumptions, Aſthma's, ſhortneſs of Breath, Ulcers and Stuffings of the Lungs, reſtoring the radical moiſture, extinguiſhing and allaying all preternatural Heats and Thirſt, ſudden flushing in the Hands and Face, Vapours, &c. to admiration, removes all Obſtructions in the Liver, Spleen, &c. purifies the Blood, and renovates the whole Body by repleniſhing the Blood and Juices, with the True and Natural Balſamick Sulphur of Life, is approved and commended by the moſt ſenſible and knowing Phyſicians and Philoſophers, particularly the famous Helmont. Is now removed and Sold only at Mr. Lawrance's Toy-Shop at the Sign of the Griffin the corner of the Poultry near Bucklers-Berry at 2 s. 6 d. a bottle with Directions.

BARTLETT's Inventions for the Cure of Ruptures, which have gain'd ſo Univerſal Eſteem, are now, yet farther Improv'd to ſo great a Nicety, that one of his Steel Spring Truſſes of the largeſt Size, ſeldom Exceeds 4 ounces in Weight, and one of the ſmalleſt rarely exceeds a quarter of an Ounce, and are ſo well adapted to the ſhapes of human Bodies, that they are extraordinary eaſy even to Infants of a Day Old, and Intirely keep up the Ruptures of what Bigneſs ſoever. Alſo divers Inſtruments to help the Weak and Crooked. By P. Bartlet at the Golden Ball by the Ship Tavern in Preſcot Street in Goodmans Fields, London.

NOTE, He forges and finiſhes his Truſſes himſelf, by which means he daily Improves his Inventions.

☞ I *Thomas Pritchard*, at the *Saracens-Head* in *Little Carter Lane*, near St. *Paul's*, *London*, having a Son who had a very bad Rupture, and applying to Mr. *Bartlett*, at the *Golden Ball* in *Preſcot-ſtreet* in *Goodman's-Fields*, *London*, He perform'd the Cure in four Days to my great Surprize, and my Son has remain'd well ever ſince.

This is to give Notice, that I *Richard Baker*, of *Lawrence Poltneys Lane*, *Cannonſtreet*, *London*, having had a Rupture for about fifty Years; at laſt I apply'd my ſelf to the late Mr. *Chriſtopher Bartlett*, at the *Golden Ball* by the Tavern in *Preſcot-ſtreet* in *Goodman's-Fields*; who, by his ingenious Invention of Spring-Truſſes and Rupture Spirits, with the Bleſſing of GOD, made a perfect Cure in about eight Months, and I have been perfectly well ever ſince which is about four or five Years.

NOTE, His Son *P. Bartlett* lives at the ſame Place as above-mention'd, and carries on the ſame Buſineſs, as his Father did; having been by him thoroughly Inſtructed therein.